

May 18, 1976 Sat.

Dear Vicki and Jim,

Dad and I are downstairs watching the tennis game and it is a beautiful day out. I have the sprinkler on out in the back as I have fertilized it twice and it looks very nice. The flowers are all out now, just since you left Vicki and everything looks like a park, at least right now. I am just getting over a bad cold so I couldn't have my baby this weekend it is hard on Mary not to have a little breather but I am sure I will feel back to normal soon.

We were at Mary's for mothers day and we got in two and a half hours of bridge while Diane was having her nap. I think she would have slept thru until morning but Mary and I got worried about her and finially woke her up. I took her outside as it was a beautiful day and lots of people were at the swimming pool for her to watch and we fed the ducks and also saw the new little baby ducks.

I hope you two met on schedule in Chicago. Vicki, I felt terrible about forgetting to put wash cloths in your bathroom and more towels but I hope you feel enough at home here to help yourself to anything you need. The one towel that was in there was a fresh one but I meant to bring more down and I forgot to.

Billy Graham has been here all week at the Kingdome and has had over record crowds. In fact Friday night they had to turn thousands away. Johnny Cash was in the program and the evening was beautiful and it is all free, which helped to bring the crowd out.

Mary and Mike can get into their house June 1st, which isn't very far away. Mary wants to get a dog as she is alone so many evenings. The back yard is fenced in which will make it easy to have a dog as they are not allowed to run loose. Jeannie and Art have sold their house and expect to get into their new house in August.

Stella wants to sell the cabin and I would love to buy them out but dad said he wouldn't think of giving Harold five thousand dollars for their half of it. I would like to have it and have always wanted to have it and to get a clear title on it, but I don't think they would let me buy it anyway. I just can't sell it as it would be just like parting with ~~my~~/~~of~~ my parents all over again.

Aunt Stella just called and we are going out to dinner with them tonight at the new Mexican restaurant. Gregg, (Bernices youngest) has decided he wants to live with Bensons, so he has just arrived from Ellensburg. He is 18 year old and quit school about two years ago and gets in alot of trouble and is

is on parole but he is a nice boy and has had a very hard life so it is easy to see how he can get into a little trouble.

Monday morning:

I am glad I hadn't mailed this letter because now I can tell you how nice it was to talk to you yesterday. I feel better this morning and have drunk a glass of orange juice. The weather is beautiful again after the little storm we had yesterday afternoon, so I plan to spend much of the day out on the chaise lounge and get rid of this cold.

Mary was glad to hear about your seeing Sue. She will feel so much better knowing you are there.

Your gas barbecue sounds really great. We bought a little Hibachi and have it in the fireplace and dad likes fixing steaks and hamburgers on it. The weather isn't always nice enough to have it outside on the picnic table. Your new position is really an important one, Jimmy and I know you will be the best one that has ever worked there, and the nicest one and the best looking one.

I will stop for now and take this down to the post office and thank you again for calling yesterday.

Love,

Mom.